Media Advisory

U.S. Department of the Interior Minerals Management Service Office of Public Affairs

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT Nicolette Nye, 703/787-1011 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, April 23, 2007

Minerals Management Service to Hold Public Hearing in the Boston Area

Agency to Address Draft Environmental Impact Statement for OCS Alternative Energy and Alternate Use Program

WASHINGTON – The Interior Department's Minerals Management Service (MMS) will hold a public hearing in Newton, Massachusetts on Thursday, April 26, 2007 to solicit comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Alternative Energy and Alternate Use Program. Statements on the DEIS, both oral and written, will be recorded at the hearing.

What: Public Hearing on OCS Alternative Energy and Alternate Use Program

Who: Maureen Bornholdt, Program Manager, OCS Alternative Energy and Alternate Use Program

When: April 26, 2007, 7 p.m.

Where: Marriot Boston Newton

2345 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts

The Draft Programmatic EIS focuses on potential alternative energy development that may be initiated in the next 5-7 years as well as potential alternate uses of offshore facilities in the same time frame. MMS released the draft EIS on March 20, 2007, and is accepting written comments on the document through May 21, 2007. The public may view and submit comments on the draft EIS at: <a href="https://documentsocu

MMS received authority for the OCS Alternative Energy and Alternate Use Program under the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (mms.gov/offshore/RenewableEnergy/EPAct2005Sec388.pdf.) Under this authority, MMS will regulate alternative energy projects and alternate use of facilities on the OCS.